

H. R. 253.

FEBRUARY 14, 1821.

Read twice, and ordered to lie upon the table.

A BILL

In addition to the act regulating the Post Office Establishment.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
3 the commission to be allowed by the Postmaster General to
4 the postmasters, respectively, for their services and expenses,
5 on the money arising from the postage of letters, newspapers,
6 and packets, whenever the whole amount collected in one
7 quarter shall exceed three thousand six hundred dollars, shall
8 be three per centum and no more on the excess.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That the thirty-eighth*
2 section of the act regulating the post office establishment,
3 passed the thirtieth day of April, in the year one thousand
4 eight hundred and ten, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted, That no person, be-*
2 ing a postmaster, or editor or printer of a newspaper, or inte-
3 rested in the printing or editing of any newspaper, shall, in
4 future, be capable of contracting for the transportation of the

5 mail of the United States. And if any person, being a con-
 6 tractor for the transportation of the mail, shall exercise the
 7 trade or business of an editor or printer of a newspaper, or
 8 shall be interested, directly or indirectly, in the printing or
 9 editing of any newspaper, he shall forfeit and pay five hundred
 10 dollars, one half to and for the use of the United States, and
 11 the residue to and for the use of any person who will sue for
 12 the same in an action of debt.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That whenever the
 2 Postmaster General shall stipulate with any person to carry
 3 newspapers, other than those conveyed in the mail, he shall
 4 take of such person a bond, in a reasonable sum, to carry all
 5 newspapers delivered to him to be carried on equal terms.

1 SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the postmas-
 2 ters, respectively, shall reside in the city, town, village, or place,
 3 where their offices are established; and that their privilege
 4 of franking shall extend only to letters, newspapers, and pack-
 5 ets, directed to and from their respective offices.